WASHINGTON SO REW SO

Jacob Keefer, of Washington, has asked the District Commissioners to have the statue of Lincoln in Lincoln Park denuded of a portion of its symbolism. At the feet of the Emancipator in the Lincoln At the Park statue is a naked, crouching negro. who is looking up into Lincoln's face with an expression of pleading agony on his black features. Mr. Keefer wants the negro taken off the statue. He says he makes the thing inharmonious. The Commissioners have happily informed the gentleman that they have no jurisdiction over the matter.

Landscape gardners and people with you have chosen." "public improvement" fads are positively inexorable in their demands. Just now the War Department is "doing things." Congress appropriated money is as sound as a dollar. It shades a great big corner of the Park in Summer and is favorite place for the children that play The iconoclastic people who had the placing of the statue at that particular spot were already to go to work chopping the tree down, when a protest was rushed over to the War Department, and Secretary Root recalled the order, so far as destroying the tree is concerned.

Abner Taylor, ex-Representative from Illinois, died in Washington last week. He lost his eyesight a few years ago, his vision having always been defective. This defect kept him from being mustered into the army during the war of the rebellion. He was born in Maine in 1829.

Hon. Binger Hermann, o' Oregon, former Commissioner of the United States Land Office, has been nominated for Congress in the First Oregon District. Mr. Hermann served two years in Congress before going into the Land Office.

Hallet Kilbourn died at St. Elizabeth's. Washington, last week. His career had been a notable one in many ways. He was a "Forty-niner," and was one of the writers for the old National Republican He was associated with Gov. Shepard in the improvement of Washington, and was once indicted by Congress for participation in what was known as the Estate deal" of Washington, refused to give up the books of the real estate firm with which he was connected, and was sentenced to jail. The jail of town was a horrible place, so Mr. Kilbourn was incarcerated in one of the Committee rooms at the Capitol, where he lived like a prince for nearly two months. Then he was turned loose, and that was the last of the case. Mr. Kil-bourn had been in failing health for a long time, and his mind left him over a

The butchers of Washington are through giving credit except under certain cirninstances. They had a meeting recently, and, after discussing the \$300,000 worth of failures of butchers in Washington in the last 10 years, determined to put a stop to the wholesale loss they had been

"Most of these accounts are not made by persons who cannot pay, but by exreceive a card which will help him to obtain credit from the new butcher."

discontinued, and the Postmistress, Mrs. ness men. will until the term for which she was appointed expires. The denizens of that neck of Mississippi woods will not get their mail at Indianola, however, until all danger to Mrs. Cox is past.

Miss Rebecca Taylor, the young lady who undertook to buck against the Civil Service Commission and the President of United States, has just fallen heir to \$300,000 fortune from an old nucle who lived in San Francisco. Falling heir to fortunes is a much easier way of acquir-ing them than fighting the Government for a chance to earn one. Miss Taylor announces that she will be back in the that sprident.

fool-yet. . . .

Commissioner-General Sargent, of the Immigration Bureau, is on his way to Hawaii, where he will establish an immigrant station at Honolulu. Congress appropriated \$30,000 for this purpose last Winter. The opening of the Pacific cable has greatly facilitated the work of the immigrant service in the Haweiian stations. The Immigrant Commissoner is detention for more than a month at a qualified for jurors.

The Treasury Department has just rented fireproof storage room for the old files of the Auditor of the Post-office Department. There are 300 tons of these files. They consist of old money orders and guard books which, under the law, must not be destroyed until after a lapse of seven years.

It is not generally known that the Government finds ready sale for all its old papers, and as soon as the law releases these old files they will be sold to the manufacturers of paper, when they will be made into new paper. Every scrap of Government paper is sold. It is not even permitted to take an old envelope from one of the waste-baskets, for these are among the foreign postage stamps.

People who have Government "claims" against anybody or anything embark on a rough voyage when they undertake to to serve injunctions preventing the payment of awards by Hon. T. M. C. Asser, of The Hague Court, in settlement of the reizure of sailing vessels by the Russian 2 and 3, just as suits the Senator. Government. The vessels belonged to Americans, and the awards amount to Mrs. Sheridan last week sold the nearly \$75,000. Mr. Peirce claims onethird of the amount as compensation for Temhis services in securing the same. porary injunctions have been granted and receivers have been appointed.

Milton E. Ailes, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, has severed his connection with that Department, to accept the Vice Presidency of the Riggs National Bank of stated in a particularly pleasing personal

Secretary Shaw wrote Mr. Ailes 'as fol-

"I am fully advised that your retirement from public service is because of and new responsibilities which you are about to assume, and while I congratulate you the

A regular scrapping match is going on it," so let it go. between the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the milk dealers of the world has well nigh forgotten, and the War Department is about to place these. Lafayette Park, opposite the White House, is to get at least two, which should go in the corners to balance the two already erected. In the corner selected for one is a magnificent elm tree, lected for one is a magnificent elm tree. It is known to be over a century old, and is as sound as a shall not rinse and clean the milk cans before the milk cans before he gets through with the investigation which is old concern, however, and before he gets through with the investigation which is through with the investigation which is a great hardship if they have to clean out the cans before returning them, and the will work them a great hardship if they have to clean out the cans before returning them, and the formers to balance the thoroughly before they use them again, anyhow. The farmers reply that when lists normal position, has been for two or three thoroughly before they use them again, anyhow. The farmers reply that when lists are sound as a shall not rinse and clean the milk cans before he gets through with the investigation which is through with the permits of Aug. 11-12 feet from the old concern, however, and before the gets which provided line of the ship, from a point 11-12 feet from th bottom of the can, that it is almost impossible to get those cans clean, and that no amount of scalding and steaming will sweeten them, as long as a tiny bit of dried milk remains to contaminate the He is Taking a Well-Earned Vacation Amid whole. And so it goes.

> Some pathological sharp who represents these particles did not hurt the milk in the least! He said that sour milk was that he did not want to have a whole counted healthy, and that lots of customers took sour milk all the time. He also He wanted to rest and he wanted to take ventured the opinion that it would be im- that rest in his own way. The reputable possible for milk to turn putrid and breed newspapers of the country have taken maggots, as had been asserted by a customer who was on the witness stand. He any other public man at his word, the said that it did not matter getting filth in the cans; it would all rinse out!

> And this man professes to know all tempt to invade the privacy of the Presi-about diseases, their causes, course and dent, and the representative of that paper correction! Imagine having a man like got lost in the shuffle, or, rather, he that to analyze the milk that teething out in the "discard" and has not been babies, for instance, are obliged to take for nourishment. If this is the class of men that milk dealers employ in general to make tests for them, it is not much wonder that infant mortality in great cities, where milk is scarcely fit for the Military couriers. They report that "swill" by the time it is taken from the President is in the best of health. He cities, where milk is scarcely fit for milk train at the city's gates, becomes appallingly large before the heated term is at an end.

A great story was sent out by some correspondent in Washington on a quiet day recently about how Admiral Schley was going on the lecture platform. The Admiral gets a little riled when the matter is mentioned to him. "I do not think I have made a fool of myself at any stage of my life," he said the other day, "and I have no intention of beginning now. No lecture platform for me," and so another lie is nailed.

We now have a Government cable from San Francisco to the Farallon Islands. Where are the Faralions? Just 32 miles due west of the entrance to the Golden Gate. They have been chiefly noted for being the breeding grounds of sea gulls a stop to the wholesale loss they had been suffering through purposely dishonest people. They have sent out a circular to all their customers, which reads, in part, as follows: thing, and it has now been established.

Hereafter the Government will display travagant persons who will not pay. Do storm warnings from its Farallon station, you want to pay for what this extravagant class eat? A person who now gets by signal, and the observer will report credit from a butcher and wishes to transfer his trade to another will, upon the payment of his bill at the first butcher, the landing. The new service will permit the calling of tugs, the communication of many years, says that the story is an idle visers, and that they did not know what tale, made out of whole cloth. There is a place called "Death Gulch," and that is passing craft and to San Francisco businesses and experts. It can only be honestly the extent of the truth of the story is an idle visers, and that they did not know what tale, made out of whole cloth. There is a place called "Death Gulch," and that is passing craft and to San Francisco businesses and experts, it can only be honestly the extent of the truth of the story is an idle visers, and that they did not know what tale, made out of whole cloth. There is a place called "Death Gulch," and that is passing craft and to San Francisco businesses and experts, it can only be honestly the extent of the truth of the story is an idle visers, and that they did not know what tale, made out of whole cloth. There is a place called "Death Gulch," and that is storyed by torpedoes, as may be proved by these without the story is an idle visers, and that they did not know what tale, made out of whole cloth. There is a place called "Death Gulch," and that is a place called "Death Gulch," and the convey and the proved by these without the story is an idle water, does not, accord to the water, does not,

> The name of Gen. Corbin was put up at one of the Washington Clubs by several of his brother officers who were members. and some of the prominent citizens of the District at three different times, and he has been black-balled each time. This would never have been known if some of his friends had not come out and told it, and endeavosed to "explain how it hap-There are times when a man wishes to send up along with his petition to the throne of grace for defense from his enemies a sort of addenda for protection from his fool friends.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw misses Fall, and proposes to use a good deal of the train the other day when on his way that \$300,000 in continuing the fight on back to Washington, because he had not money enough in his pockets to pay his hotel bill, and the Chicago young woman There is an old saying about "the fool who acts as Cashier for a caravansary and his money." Miss Taylor is nobody's there, turned him down when he offered her a check for \$235. It was rather an embarrassing situation for the big man who was in a hurry, and there is no know-ing what would have happened if the Chief Clerk of the hotel had not put in his appearance about that time.

The Hawaiian Legislature has sent a petition to the 58th Congress to make the Hawaiian language the official language. now in touch with the work in Honolulu proceedings. The legislature also asks every day, and can decide questions in a day which used to keep immigrants in and speak the Hawaiian language be The exercises will be conducted by the

> Territory of the United States, and the quicker she qualifies herself for that hon-orable position the better. The "United States language is good enough for anybody. It would be a cruel thing to undertake to suppress the musical language of the natives of Hawaii, but they can retain their own language while learning that of a better country and a language that in a very short time will be the diplomatic language of the world.

The Pope expresses great pleasure at receiving from President Roosevelt a copy of 'the "Messages of the Presidents,' all sold to stamp men, who realize enor-monsly on the finds they sometimes make which he declares he will read with in terest, and be glad to place with the set of the President's books which were pr It is said that President Roosevelt is sented to him last year by Gov. Taft. These are the books which the readers of The National Tribune have long ago had the pleasure of reading.

Senator Hanna's youngest daughter to be married in Cleveland June 10. The get them through. Third Assistant Sec-retary of State H. D. Peirce has insti-tuted suits in the District Supreme Court

Hanna's presence is desired both places. held June 9 and 10, but as Senator Hanna's presence is desired both places, and it is bad luck to change the date of a wedding, the date of the Convention has been changed to May 26 and 27 or June

> Mrs. Sheridan last week sold the hous which the people of the United States gave her husband, Gen. Phil Sheridan. There is not now a single house remain-ing in the name of one of the famous men

Washington, one of the oldest and most prominent institutions in the East. President Roosevelt accepted the resignation of Mr. Alles with extreme regret, and so literally "yanked" out by stringent new

change unless forced to. It is so much easier to go on doing the old way that has been followed by predecessors for 50 years than it is to spend a little gray matter of the brain in thinking up new

and better ways.

The business of the Post-office Departnent has grown enormously in the last 10 years, and about the only change there has been the addition of a few clerks every little while to get the added business out. Now it is discovered that "somebody" has blundered in being extravagant in ordering supplies for new and old post-offices, and that mistakes have been made in every arm of the service, which will cost the Government a pretty penny, yet were upon this merited recognition. I regret exceedingly that it should become necessary for you to sever your connection with the Department during my incumbency. Our relations have been more than agreeable: they have been cordial and pleasant. You certainly have my best wishes, and I you certainly have my best wishes, and I reduced for you a most successful career. As a matter of fact you won't method is a summer of the service, which will cost the Government a pretty penny, yet were the Governor the forward part. The Morth American man of the Yeth Reflects.

"The North American man of the Maine with the testion of the protting the proton of the protting the proton of the port is above them and studied them in the reflects.

"The North American man of the S every arm of the service, which will cost

Postmaster-General Payne seems disposed to inject a little new life into the Maine, old concern, however, and before he gets "5. / anyhow. The farmers reply that when the milk is left to dry on the sides and methods be adopted, and his advice will

THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR.

the Wonders of the Yellowstone Park. President Roosevelt has thoroughly dehis word, and they would minute they felt sure that he said and thought the same thing. Only one newspaper in the whole country made any at

in the Yellowstone Park, is brought by takes long tramps over the trails, and when feasible enjoys riding the big troop horses that have been placed at his dis posal. There is a good deal of snow in the Yellowstone, which somewhat interthis time, the drifting snow having filled canyons and gulches. If the "beautiful" would freeze good and hard all would be

thing that ventures in dies, and that the floor of this terrible gulch is covered kneedeep with the bones of creatures that are lured by some dread fascination into the deep, damp, dark, death chamber. It all reads like a real blood thriller ought to, but it isn't so

some disagreeable and rank odors, villainous smells as one ever encountered. They come from the sulphur springs, but they do not poison anyone. In this gulch are some small salt springs, and animals go in there to lick the salt. Some hunters predecessors at Trafalgar had been retheir pelts and furs. It was an easy method, as the animals would die in the gulch instead of wandering away into the woods where they could not be An exploring party went up the gulch and poisoned. More than this there were hundreds of skeletons of animals, such as mountain lions, bob cats, foxes and wolves, for the hunters had skinned the animals and left the carcasses in the The exploring party immediately decided that the animals had been nois oned by the odors and that report be generally believed. The hunters naturally vanted it spread, as it insured them uninterrupted profits. All visitors would go to the mouth of the gulch, or far enough to get a whiff of the odors and a sight of the bones, and would at once accept the story as true."

The President has accepted the invita tion to lay the cornerstone of the new gate at the North boundary of the Yellow stone Park. The ceremony will occur during the afternoon of April 24, which Grand Lodge of Masons of Montana, and will be very impressive. It was designed the kind. To take such action would be to make Hawaiian the language to be taught in the public schools. Hawaii quite a good deal.

The Park is being patrolled in a very efficient manner by the mounted police. A man who belonged to the transportation company of the Park, but who seems to have been unknown to the police, was found within the proscribed limits, and, despite his protestations that he had a right there, giving his name and business the police trotted him off to headquarter and locked him up over night, until his case could be looked into. He was able to clear himself when daylight came, but he was so badly scared that he declared he would quit the employ of the company.

Secretary Loeb went up to meet the President when he came in from For Yellowstone and carried some routine

the party are in excellent health, and not by the action of the heat upon the shells an accident of any kind occurred. On and other explosives, were heard at interthe party are in excellent nearth, and an accident of any kind occurred. On entering the park the President informed vals.

"The undersigned immediately ordered who, owing Maj. Pitcher that he would not, under any circumstances, fire a shot at anything all persons to be summoned, who, owing to their being in the vicinity of the said

SPANISH WAR (Continued troublist page.)

CONDITION OF THE WRECK.

caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the waters of the ironclad in question. For

be had the ship sunk uninjured. "The outside bottom plating is bent into

a reversed V shape (A), the after wing of which, about 15 feet broad and 32 feet in length (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating, extend-

ing forward. "At frame 18 the verifical keel is brok-en in two, and the flat keel bent into an Some pathological sharp who represents one of the milk dealers gave it as his opinion that the fact of milk souring from not have to. He said when he was getting about six feet above the surface of the water, and about 30 feet above its normal

position.
"In the opinion of the Court this effect could have been produced only by the plosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18 and somewhat on the port side of the ship. "6. The Court finds that the loss of the Maine on the occasion named was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew of said vessel.

7. In the opinion of the Court the Maine was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of the for ward magazines.
"S. The Court has been unable to ob-

In view of the foregoing finding regarding the brutal blowing up of the Maine by Spanish authorities, it is not improper to show at this time that Spain knew that if she won out in her barbarous war on feres with some of the plans that were Cuba, she could never do it in an open made for the enjoyment of the President, and fair naval fight, and that her only sure for some of the trails are impassable at this time, the drifting snow having filled dastardly means as she permitted, if she collision at that moment must be rejected, did not specifically order, in the case of

canyons and gulches. If the "beautiful" would freeze good and hard all would be well, but it is light and shifty and liable to "let down" heavy-weights in unexpected places. It would be unwise for the President to risk an accident of this character.

A wonderful story has gone out about the President being determined to visit Death Gulch in the Yellowstone Park, where, it is gruesomely told, "nothing with lungs can live." It is even circumstantially related that there are horrible hot sulphur springs in the "gulch" which send up deadly gases and vapors so that everything that ventures in dies, and that the but it isn't so.

Col. George Anderson, a big cavalryman who is in Washington and who was in charge of the Yellowstone Park for many years, says that the story is an idle tale made out of whole cloth. There is the wars leading her into Year l and do not talk as loud as this case, on account

found this out and placed poisoned meat in the gulch to capture the animals for After expressing himself thus, Admiral Cervera added: "This is my loyal opin-ion, and for the sake of the Nation I express it to the Government. If it is thought advisable for me to express it personally, I am ready to start at the first intimation. After I have done this, thus relieving my conscience of a heavy weight, I am quite ready to fulfill the comparatively easy duty of conducting our forces wherever I may be ordered, being

sure that all of them will do their duty."
Then the Queen Regent ordered him across the sea to Cuban waters. It must have been an awful journey for the Admiral, who was a gallant little gentleman and who knew that he was taking his little navy straight to its destruction and his men to almost as certain death. probably did not know to what depths his Government had sunk in its plans for winning in an uncount fight, and had never been informed that the blowing up of the Maine and other battleships, if they could be enticed into her harbors, was a part of the scheme of annihilation which Spain had in view for an enemy which she could never hope to conque on the high seas in open fight.

FINDING OF THE SPANISH COURT.

Some day, undoubtedly, the whole plot of Spain will be uncovered. Just however, the finding of the Spanish Court of Inquiry on the blowing up of the Maine is a diplomatic lesson in "How not to make the truth known." The paper was headed by the Spanish: "Finding of the Spanish Court of Instruction." It was well named. The officials who were set to work by Spain to inquire into the the destruction of the Maine had their "instructions" exactly what to "find," and they "found" it with neatness and dispatch. The finding, which follows, is very rich when contrasted with the strict ly technical conclusions of men trained to their business, and jealous of their honor and integrity, such as formed the United States Board of Inquiry;

To the Admiral Mailfillola, Naval Commandant General of the Station:
"Your Excellency: On the night of
Feb. 15 last a dreadful and extraordinary

Yellowstone and carried some routine business for the President to transact, the first that he has done since he went into the hill country. On his return to Cinnibar, Secretary Loeb sent out the following dispatch:

"The President and his party have just returned from their eight days horsehack trip in the north of the park and along the Yellowstone. The party consisted of the President, Maj. Pitcher, Mr. John Burroughs, with an orderly, the scouts, and the packers with the mule train. All of the party are in excellent health, and not by the action of the least upon the shells

to whom the people of the country presented them.

It is said now that one reason for the general stirring up of things in the Post-office Department is the antiquated methods of doing things there. A Government Department gets into ruts about doing things, and it never gets out unless it is literally "yanked" out by stringent new laws. A Department clerk simply will not sented them.

It is said now that one reason for the general stirring up of things in the Post-office Department is the antiquated methods of doing things there. A Government Department gets into ruts about doing things, and it never gets out unless it is literally "yanked" out by stringent new laws. A Department official hates change:

Begin the park, and he took neither rifle nor shotgun with him. The party had some good fishing, and the President and Mr. Burroughs spent a large part of their time in following and watching at close quarters the great herds of game, chiefly elk, but also mountain sheep, deer and antelope. The party will go to the interior of the park, visit the geysers, and perhaps the Falls of the Yellowstone. They will go in sleighs, on horseback, or on skis, according to the condition of the said vessel, could give any explanation or information with regard to the disaster, or any account of its effects, and I requested the attendance of an official interpreter of the Artendance of the Atlendance of the At

"As Don Francisco Javier de Salas, a Lieutenant in the navy, the Secretary of the Court of Inquiry, was asked by an American officer, a few minutes before gators might be present at the operations the beginning of the proceedings, whether the explosion could have been caused by a torpedo, notwithstanding the emphatic expressions of public opinion, which imunidately rejected this supposition as absurd, and which was corroborated by arguments easily understood by every ties had replied, stating that, by agree-"4. The evidence bearing upon this, being principally obtained from divers, did not enable the Court to form a definite conclusion as to the Loudition of the production of the production of the sale was established that the after part of the sale was practically interest, and sank in that condition a very interest, and sank in that condition a very interest. explosions, which are so peculiar in their

Tou certainly have my best wishes, and I predict for you a most successful career in the field of commercial activity which you have chosen."

A regular scrapping match is going on the District of the Distr the royal order of Aug. 11, 1882, which covered, from what they have accomordinances of the navy, and that of obedience to the police regulations established in those ports,
"Taking the said buoy No. 4 [locally

No. 4, but No. 5 on Chart 307 of the United States Hydrographic office] as the center, the depth of the bay varies, within a radius of 100 meters, from 30 to 36 feet, with a bottom of loose mud. The Maine, when she came in, drew 22 feet, and the depth of water at the place where she sunk is 32 feet at the bow and 30 feet at the stern.
"On the night of the sad occurrence the

Spanish cruiser Alphonso XII was an-chored at buoy No. 3, and the naval steam transport Lagaspi at No. 2, distant 140 and 240 meters, respectively, from the [artificio] must necessarily, in this case. said buoy No. 4. "At the moment of the explosion there

was no wind, and the water was very smooth, as it usually is in this bay at that "The rise of the tide in the harbor is

one and a half feet, and the high tide on that day was at 4 p. m.

your Excellency's enlightened mind the phenomena which accompany the explo-The word that comes out to the world from the President, who is scouting round to the Wallawstone Park is brought by "S. The Court has been unable to one tain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons."

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"S. The Court has been unable to one tain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons." without batteries [elementos], or even with batteries, without the knowledge of the authorities and of the public generally.

"The ignition of the torpedo must necessarily have been produced either by collision or by electrical discharge; and as the state of the sea and wind did not allow of collision at that moment must be rejected, and we must consider that of an electric

ascensional force, tends usually to rise to the surface in a vertical line, producing a of the ship. tion to the two circumstances mentioned. "At the same time a certain quaking [trepidacion] is noticed on the shore, which varies directly in proportion to the amount of explosive matter used, its greater immersion, and its nearness to the

dead fish on the surface [of the water], natatory bladder. "The action of torpedoes on vessels is

very variable, and depends, besides, on the resistance of the hull which it strikes, the quantity of the explosive matter, and the "No known case has yet been recorded

where the explosion of a torpedo against the side of a vessel has caused the explosion of the magazines. "As is seen by the plans [diagrams], there was nothing but powder and shell in

the forward magazines of the Maine "It appears from the examination of

"Don Julio Peres y Perera, naval Lieutenant of the first class, states in his depo-sition that he was in his sheers-house [casa de la machina], about 400 yards from the said vessel, when, about 9:35 p. m., he saw an enormous blaze of fire arise toward the zenith and to a great hight, followed by a terrible explosion. He adds that almost the whole of the iron clad was covered by a thick smoke, that the illumination was almost instantaneous lyextinguished, and that an infinite num ber of colored lights passed away into space. The moment after the explosion all was dark until, a little later, the awful scene was illuminated by the brightness of the fire, which was certainly caused by the explosion.

"The witness says that other explosions, apparently of shell, followed, which con inued until 2 o'clock in the morning, at which hour the fire began to diminish "The witness saw the bow sink a few

minutes after the explosion, and he asserts that there was no column of water, nor the least movement in the water [mar] and that there was no shaking of the land on shore.
"The other depositions of witnesses con

firm the description of the explosion given by this officer, and they all agree that they noticed no movement in the water, and that they felt no shock of the water, although some of them were on board ves sels as near the Maine as the Alfonso XII. "During the early hours of the morning the undersigned, accompanied by the Sec retary, made a close examination of the bay without finding any dead fish, or in-

juries of any kind on the piles of the piers.
"Don Francisco Aldao, the head pilot, testifies that the harbor of Hayana abounds in fish, and that there are persons who devote themselves to this in-dustry with profit; and the techincal assistant of the junta of the harbor works Senor Ardois, who has been engaged upon them for many years, states that, without any exception, whenever small blasts have been made with charges [of powder] varying from five to 25 pounds, for the purpose of blowing up hulls of vessels, loose rock, and even shoals in the bay, a great number of dead fish have be found inside the hulls or floating on the surface of the water.

"In continuation of the investigation on the 16th of February the United States Consul was requested, through your Ex-cellency, to procure the attendance of some of the surviving officers and sailors of the Maine, in order to receive such testimony as they might see fit to give with regard to the occurrence. On the same day, through the same medium, permission was requested to examine the bottom of the vessel. On the 18th of Feb. ruary I again applied to your Excellency to procure from the commander of the Maine, either directly or through his Consul, exact information as to the quantity of explosives still existing in that part of the vessel which had not been burned. to On the 21st I went to the American tilation, or if due attention is not paid steamer Mangrove for the purpose of to the temperature, or even when such

of the American official diver. On the same day I again wrote, asking for per-mission to proceed to the examination of

whom they had asked for. "On the 24th I received an important communication, dated Feb. 17, inclosing

lations of the American navy. "It was at last possible to make use of the new mode of investigation offered by the work of the divers, as it, was dis

plished up to this date, that the hull of attention is paid, if its indications are not the wrecked vessel is apparently buried in the mud, and that the examination of the outside is impracticable, but that it may

"The divers, having been instructed to examine and describe everything they might notice at the bottom of the bay and nearest to the sunken vessel, reported that they had not found in the mud which forms the bottom any inequalities or fissures—such as the examination of the bottom of the bay at the place occupied by the Maine and the hull [calado] of the vessel which doubtless have brought have been placed at the very bottom of the bay or very near it, and when it exploded would have caused the gases to react upon it, and, at the same time that it produced a greater effect upon the water upward, it would have made large

fissures [deformaciones] in the mud.
"It appears from the examination of the "Refore proceeding to the consideration of other data I think it well to recall to pedo brigade, that, whatever may have been the original cause of the disaster, ous to manage, accumulated in large on account of the ufter impossibility that such a mine could have been prepared heads, which now display the appearance of a shapeless mass of boards. and pipes of metal, very difficult to describe. In particular may be noticed a large fragment of the forward deck, which must have been raised in the most violent manner and bent double toward the stern by the forward stack-house, like immense sheet of iron, with a considerable inclination to starboard, which, upon turning over, hurled out of the ship the forward turret, containing two guns, which was situated on the starboard side, and another gun with a shield, which was placed within the ship on the second deck. When the deck was bent double, as has been said, the smoke-stacks must have fallen. On the present upper side of this deck may be seen the beams and the knees which fastened them to the sides

"The whole stern is submerged, with the mainmast in place and intact, so much of it as can be seen above the water, in-cluding the lights [glasses] of the skylights of the cabin hatchways and the glasses of one projector [provector].

"The gentlemen above mentioned assert that the injuries described could only have been caused by the explosion of the forward magazine.

"Notwithstanding what has been stated. a place called "Death Guich," and that is the extent of the truth of the story.
"There is a guich," he says, "and it has own houses, and do not talk as loud as loud as loud as own houses, and do not talk as loud as nature of the harbor, is the presence of don in 1889, in which treatise there is a detailed account, extending from page usually caused by the rupture of the to page 338, inclusive, of the principal events of this nature which have occurred from 1585 to 1885; and this inventory of marine disasters includes a great num of United States men-of-war which destroyed Confederate vessels by means of tornedoes.

> "H. W. Wilson's treatise, Vol. II, published in 1896, and entitled 'Ironclads Action: Naval Warfare from 1855 to 1895,' may also be consulted on this

> "On the other hand, there are re in the history of all the nations in the world, and especially in modern tim proportionate number of events sufficing to prove the comparative facility with which ships of war are liable to become the victims of unknown and fatal acci-dents, owing to combinations which may result from the various and complicated materials employed in their construction and armament, as it is in many cases im possible to guard against them, except at the cost of terrible calamities.

"The knowledge of the spontaneous combusition of the coal in the coal-bankers is within the reach of all, and there is not a navy officer who cannot relate some sad episode attributed to this couse.

"The danger is increased when the coalbunkers are separated from the powder and ammunition magazines only by a bulkhead of iron or steel, and becomes imminent when the heat devel oped in the coal is conveyed to the maga zines, as has happened in several To prevent them, recourse has been had to the study of ventilation sufficient prevent the accumulation of gases and the development of caloric, taking, in addition, the temperature of the coal-bunkers at proper intervals. In spite cases of spontaneous combustion have oc curred repeatedly, and it is astonishing that the powder and shell magazines should still continue to be placed in im-mediate contact with the coal-bunkers. "Don Saturnino Montojo, an illustrious Lieutenant in our navy, relates a very re

markable case which happened to the un-fortunate Reina Regente when she was being built at Clydebank. Senor Montojo says that the shafts of the screws passed through several water-tight compartments which together formed a tunnel for the passage of the shaft. The compartment on the port side of that of the wheel of the helm was furnishel with a register [registro] for the purpose of inspecting the shaft, and upon a workman attempting to draw out a small screw there was an explosion, causing a small fracture of the side on the exterior, and filling the stern compartments of the vessel with water; but the ship did not sink entirely, thanks to the other water tight compartments and to the powerful pumps with which the ship was provided, which were set to work and kept her afloat. "This accident was attributed to the fact

that the compartment in question had no ventilation. It is evident that gases are formed in any one of the places mentioned by the electric action develor the fatty substances combined with the paint, the water, etc.

"If there is any ventilation, these gase have an outlet; but if there is none, they accumulate and finally acquire a certain tension, and when they are brought into contact with a light or sufficient heat their explosion follows, as frequently oc-curs in mines and coal-bunkers. The 80 or 90 [coal bunkers] of the Reina Regente had each a ventilation pipe and a temperature pipe. If, notwithstanding all this, any accident should obstruct or clog the ven-



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good, the adoption of urgent measures of safety will merely diminish the danger, without making it disappear entirely.

which are lying in confusion in it have and discussed, was due to the use of a been removed. and known under the name of the "In trade some of the varnishes and in

gredients used in the painting of vessels are now recommended by protecting them with patents as not liable to produce inflammable gases.
"The English scientific magazine, the 'Engine Page 19 (1997) 'Engine Page 19 (1997)

the possibility of the explosion of a shell, not by the fuse, but by the spon-taneous breaking of the shell itself. taneous breaking of the shell itself. The shell of which the author of the article speaks was made for a fourinch gun, weighed 25 pounds, used the Leandenbam fuse, and had a hardened point, tempered in water.
"These instances suffice to prove that, in spite of all the precautions that may be taken, there may occur on board of

the combination of such diverse sub-stances as those which are employed in quantities and exposed to the action of heat and electricity almost constantly, each unhappy accident serving to regulate services on the basis of precautions, and to cause precautions to be taken, so far as possible, with every new agent necessity compels us to accept in the most recent constructions.

"Consequently, in view of the result of the proceedings and the merits of the observations submitted, the undersigned con-siders it his imperative duty to state the following conclusions:

"1. That on the night of Feb. 15 last an explosion of the first order, in the for-ward magazine of the American ironclad Maine, caused the destruction of that part of the ship, and its total submersion in the same place in this bay at which it was anchored. "2. That it is learned, from the dia-

grams of the vessel, that there were no other explosive substances or articles in that magazine—the only one which exploded-than powder and shells of various calibers. "3. That the same diagrams prove that

said magazine was surrounded on the port side, the starboard side, and partly aft by coal-bunkers containing bituminous coal, and which were in compartments adjoin-ing the said magazine, and apparently separated from it only by metal bulk-

greater immersion, and its nearness to the bottom; and, besides, a very peculiar shock is observed against the sides of vessels, which varies according to the distance, and which, owing to the incompressibility of the water, does not, according to the incompressibility of the water, does not, according to the incompressibility of the water, does not, according to the incompressibility of the water, does not, according to the incompressibility of the water, does not, according to the incompressibility of the water, does not according to the incompressibility of the water, does not according to the incompressibility of the water, does not according to the incompressibility of the water, does not according to the distance, and which is incompressibility of the water, does not according to the distance of the torped or against the absence of all the circumstances which necessarily accompany the explosion of a many vessels with the explosion in its external appearance at every moment of its duration having been described by witnesses, and the absence of all the circumstances which necessarily accompany the explosion of a province of the complex of "4. That the important facts connected

> "5. That the character of the proceed ings undertaken, and respect for which establishes the principle of the absolute extraterritoriality of a foreign war-vessel, have prevented the determination, even by conjecture, said internal origin of the disaster, to which, also, the impossibility of establishing the necessary communication, either with the crew of the wrecked vessel. or with the officials of their Government commissioned to investigate the causes of the said event, or with those subsequently

> intrusted with the issue, has contributed. "6. That the interior and exterior examination of the bottom of the whenever it is possible, unless the bottom of the ship and that of the place in the bay where it is sunk are altered by the work which is being carried on for the total or partial recovery of the vessel, will prove the correctness of all that is said in this report; but this must not be understood to mean thr. the accuracy of these

> present conclusions requires such proof.
>
> "Believing that I have fulfilled all the requirements of Article 246, Title XIV, Chapter I, of the Law of Military Procedure of the Navy, in accordance with which, and with your Excellency's orders, this investigation has been made, I have the honor to transmit this report to your Excellency's hands, that you may come to PEDRO DEL PEDRAL (Rubricated).

"Havana, March 22, 1898, (To be continued.)

RECENT LITERATURE.

CONTROL OF HEREDITY: A Study of the Genesis of Evolution and Degeneracy. By Casper Lavater Redfield. Chicago: Monarch Book Company.

The laws set forth in this volume lie at the foundation of evolution, and show that a man may cause his children to be born with greater or less intelligence, as he chooses. . By the proper application of these laws, a poet, musician, statesman or philosopher can be produced with almost certainty. It also shows how the ranks of the criminal class are kept filled, and throws much light on that serious and important phase of society.

Magazines and Notes.

We have received from Comrade Thos Steward, Secretary of the 11th Ohio Association, a neat little pamphlet con-taining the roster of the proceedings of the 29th and 30th Reunions, held at Troy, Ohio, in 1901, and Soldiers' Home, Oh in 1902.

Floral Life for April brings with it the sweet breath of Spring. The beautiful illustrations and the different contributions will delight every lover of Nature.

From the Department of New York G. A. R., Abstract of General Orders and Proceedings of the 36th Annual Encampment, held at Saratoga, June 26 and 27,

Strong Grounds.

(Philadelphia Public Ledger.) A Christian Scientist, while walking in the country, came across a small boy sitting under an apple tree doubled up with

"My little man," he said "what is the matter?" "I ate some green apples," mouned the

boy, "and oh, how I ache!"
"You don't ache," answered the follower of Mrs. Eddy; "you only think so."
The boy looked up in astonishment at such a statement and then replied in a most positive manner:

"That's all right; you may think so, but I've got inside information